Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 RSR-01 IO-13 ACDA-19 /142 W

----- 008761

R 210925Z AUG 73

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 594

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

WHITE HOUSE

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL PEKING 0862

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, VN, CH

SUBJ: SIHANOUK INTERVIEW TIH AFP

1. AFP CORRESPONDENT WHO INTERVIEWED SIHANOUK AUGUST 17
HAS PROVIDED USLO OFFICER WITH FURTHER DETAILS NOT
CONTAINED IN WIRE SERVICE STORY. SIHANOUK TOLD AFP
THAT HE HAD RETURNED ONE DAY EARLY FROM TIENTSIN WHERE
HE WAS UNDERGOING MEDICAL TREATMENT IN ORDER TO MEET
WITH PHAM VAN DONG. HE SAID HE ASKED DRV PREMIER TO
PROVIDE KHMER INSURGENTS (KI) WITH FURTHER DIRECT ARMS
SUPPLIES, BUT PHAM VAN DONG SAID DRV COULD NOT SUPPLY
ARMS BECAUSE "IT IS NO LONGER AT WAR." HE AGREED,
HOWEVER, THAT IF KI COULD ENTER SOUTH VIETNAM THEY COULD
CARRY BACK ARMS AND SUPPLIES FROM NORTH VIETNAMESE HELD AREAS.

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2. IN DISCUSSING THREE STRATEGIES MENTIONED IN AFP ARTICLE,

I.E., A) CAPTURE PHNOM PENH, B) CUT SUPPLY LINES TO THE CAPITAL, OR C) CONCENTRATE ON TAKING RING OF PROVINCIAL CAPITALS, AFP CORRESPONDENT FOUND SIHANOUK RATHER LESS CONFIDENT THAN PREVIOUSLY. HE SAID FIRST AND SECOND OPTIONS INVOLVED RISK OF RENEWED U.S. BOMBING AND THIRD INVOLVED MILITARY ACTION CLOSE TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND THAI BORDERS WITH ATTENDANT RISK OF REACTION FROM ONE OR BOTH GOVERNMENTS. SIHANOUK EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT KI MERELY REGROUPING AT PRESENT AND FIGHTING WOULD CONTINUE IN RAINY SEASON. BRUCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PRESS CONFERENCES, COMBAT OPERATIONS, OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES

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Subject: SIHANOUK INTERVIEW TIH AFP

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, CB, VN, CH, KI, KHMER INSURGENTS, (SIHANOUK, NORDOM)

To: STATE

Type: TE

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